REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 5 has been amended. Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending and under consideration.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claim 5 was objected to due to various informalities. In particular, the Examiner objected to line 3 of Claim 5 due to the language, "one or more other the individual parts." Applicants have amended claim 5 to recite, "one or more of the other individual parts." Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,088,625 (Kellstrom) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,611,725 (Harrison).

Kellstrom is directed to a method and system for transferring assembly data between a computer aided design computer system and a manufacturing computer system. According to Kellstrom, the system includes a first networking circuitry in the computer aided design (CAD) computer system, a second networking circuitry in the manufacturing computer system, and communication circuitry for transferring assembly data from the first networking circuitry to the second networking circuitry.

According to Kellstrom, an operator causes execution of the CAD application program and instructs the CAD application to start a new assembly drawing. Previously defined parts can be added to the assembly drawing by executing the data warehouse subsystem PKINSERT routine from within the CAD application. The operator can define new parts, open a new drawing or exit the CAD application and cause newly defined parts to be added to the assembly drawing by executing the data warehouse subsystem "MAKEPART." According to Kellstrom, the data warehouse subsystem automatically compares a bill of materials for a newly created assembly with a bill of materials for a previously created version of the assembly to detect any differences between the bills of material. If differences between the systems are not detected, the data warehouse subsystem interface application on the computer system writes all assembly data to a data file for transmission to the manufacturing control system executing on the computer system. *See* Kellstrom, column 6, lines 15-42.

Harrison is directed to a method for processing a design model generated by a computer-aided design system including accessing model data that includes separately stored data documents detailing construction of the design model from a collection of components. According to Harrison, the model data is processed to generate image elements representing a

projected view of the design model and to generate tag data associating each of the image elements with at least one of the components and storing the first image elements and the first tag data in a drawing document. *See* Harrison, column 2, lines 31-42. The Harrison method allegedly produces a "3D" model that assembles three parts: a bolt, a lock washer, and a flat washer to form a bolt assembly. According to Harrison, a design tree shows a hierarchy of different model components and modeling operations that are brought together in the modeling of the bolt assembly shown in a window. The design tree also identifies a hierarchy of the other document file parts referenced by the bolt assembly document. According to Harrison, the tree indicates that the bolt assembly document references three parts of the document, a bolt document, a lock washer document, and a flat washer document. *See* Harrison, column 5, lines 63-66.

The present invention is characterized by managing the version information of the individual parts forming each assembly. Since the version information about the individual parts forming an assembly displayed is assigned to assembly data, an assembly previously displayed can be reproduced even after the versions of parts are upgraded.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 10-13 (in relevant part, claims 10-13 recite language similar to that of claim 1) are patentable over the references as neither of the references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest, "*assigning the version information about all of the individual parts* that form the unit displayed *to the assembly data*, where the version information is assigned to the assembly data when the assembly data and parts data of the unit displayed are stored in a storage unit [emphasis added]," as recited in claim 1, for example. Neither Kellstrom nor Harrison discloses or suggests version information of parts data of an assembly. If the parts data does not include the version information, it is not practically possibly to assign the version information about the individual parts to assembly data.

Kellstrom specifies that the data warehouse subsystem automatically assigns a part number to the created assembly. *See* Kellstrom, column 6, lines 21-23. Merely assigning a part number to a created assembly is not tantamount to or related to assigning version information about individual parts that form a unit to assembly data. In fact, in contrast to the present invention, Kellstrom does not assign version information, period.

Although Kellstrom specifies that a bill of materials for a newly created assembly is compared with a bill of materials for a previously created version of the assembly to detect any differences, the referenced "version" is with respect to the assembly itself and is not version information about individual parts that form a unit. *See* Kellstrom, column 6, lines 34-38.

Assuming *arugendo* that Harrison discloses information about individual parts which create an assembly as alleged by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, Harrison does not assign version information about individual parts that form a unit to assembly data. Harrison is not concerned with version information about individual parts.

In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1 and 10-13 are patentable over the references. As dependent claims 3-9 depend from independent claim 1, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented above for the independent claims, in addition to other reasons.

For example, claim 6 is patentable over the references, as the references fail to teach or suggest, "assigning version information about the individual parts that form the sub-unit displayed to the sub-assembly data specified in the display request." Neither of the references disclose or suggest a sub-unit.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.
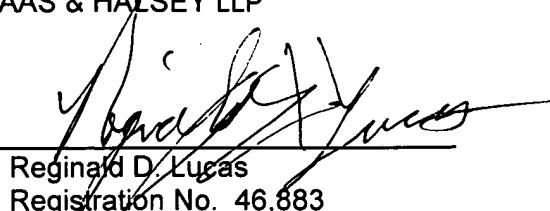
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: __12/16/05__   By: _____

Reginald D. Lucas
Registration No. 46,883

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

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